

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2005. By this Amendment, claims 1, 12-14, 16-18, 20, 21, 36, and 38 are amended, and claims 3, 19, and 37 are canceled, leaving claims 2, 4-11, 15, 22-35, and 39-42 unchanged.

On pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 7-14, 17, 18, 23, 36, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,095,713 issued to Doyle et al. However, on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 3-6, 15, 16, 19-22, and 37-41 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 12, and 36 are hereby amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claims 3, 19, 37, respectively. Further claim amendments are also made to claims 12 and 36 and to claims dependent therefrom in order to address clarity issues arising from the amendments just described.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 7-14, 17, 18, 23, 36, and 42 are allowable. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejections to claims 1, 2, 7-14, 17, 18, 23, 36, and 42 is therefore respectfully requested.

On pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, claims 24-35 are indicated as being allowed. Reasons for allowance of claims 24-35 (and apparently of the allowability of claims 3-6, 15, 16, 19-22, and 37-41) are also provided. The Applicant wishes to note that the reasons for allowance and allowability set forth only some of the features and elements of some of claims 3-6, 15, 16, 19-22, 24-35, and 37-41, and only represent some of the reasons why claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20-36, and 38-42 (as hereby amended) are allowable. A number of other features, elements, and functional relationships claimed in claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20-36, and 38-42 provide additional and different bases for allowance of the claims.

The Applicant respectfully submits that each of claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20-36, and 38-42 are separately patentable based upon the combinations of features and elements (and relationships thereof) claimed in claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20-36, and 38-42 rather than upon any one feature, element, or sub-combination of features and/or elements, as indicated in the Office Action.

In view of the amendments and remarks presented herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance. The Applicant requests that the Examiner telephone the attorneys of record in the event a telephone discussion would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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